

C1

has an exterior surface and defines a bore extending at least partway through the first housing. The first housing is coupled to the first load bearing member, thus defining a first abutment surface on the first load bearing member opposite the first housing. The second housing has an exterior surface and also defines a bore extending at least partway therethrough. The second housing also has a bore, of a shape complementary to the exterior surface of the first housing, and is adapted to slidably or telescopically receive the first housing therein. The second housing is coupled to the second load bearing member, thus defining a second abutment surface on the second load bearing member opposite the second housing. Biasing means for urging the first and second load bearing members away from each other in response to a load being imposed on at least one of the abutment surfaces is also provided.

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Please replace the second paragraph at page 5, line 5 to page 5, line 17 with the following:

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Still referring to FIG. 1, first and second slip linings, 50 and 52 respectively, are provided. The first slip lining 50 has a first lining exterior surface 54 and defines a first lining bore 56 extending therethrough. The first lining bore 54 has a shape complementary to the first housing exterior surface 32, and is adapted to receive the first housing therein. Similarly, the second slip lining 52 has a second lining exterior surface 58 and defines a second lining bore 60 extending therethrough. The second lining exterior surface 58 defines a shape complementary to and adapted to be received in the second housing bore 44. The first slip lining exterior surface 54 is also similar in shape but slightly smaller in size as compared to the second slip lining bore 60, so that the first slip lining 50 is slidably received within the second slip lining bore 60. Thus the first housing 30, the first slip lining 50, the second slip lining 52, and the second housing 40 all telescope along the axis 20.